

Wakefield Council Education Health and Care Plan – Transition Progress 2014/15

Wakefield Council have completed significant amount of work in 2014/15 to ensure that those young people who were planned to transition from a statement of SEN or a Learning Difficulties Assessment (LDA) to an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have done so successfully and with a high quality, coordinated plan.

The rapid pace of change over the past year has meant that all parties have learnt significantly in order to secure high quality and effective plans to best meet the needs of our learners. Part of this has been to ensure further training for staff, an increased focus on outcomes and a review of the EHCP Paperwork.

The EHC Transition plan, published in September 2014, has been reviewed in March 2015 in order to consider progress against the plan and to provide clarity on those that will transition in each of the subsequent academic years. It has been further updated in September 2015 to reflect the change in timeframes for completion of transitions from Statements to EHCPs.

Wakefield have taken the approach in Year 1 of transitions of completing those that were statutorily required (those leaving school to enter post-16 institutions or apprenticeships) plus the following groups:

- Those in lower foundation stage
- Those moving from infant to Junior School
- Those in Year 2 whose review falls after Christmas
- Those in Year 5 whose review falls after February half term
- Post-16 High needs learners who are in the first year of their provision with an intention of being in education beyond September 2016
- Those moving into the district
- Those moving between specialist and mainstream provision and vice versa where deemed appropriate

This approach has been taken to ensure that the LA is in the best position to manage the demands of high numbers due to transition in 2015/16 and 2016/17 and to ensure that those with the most significant change of provision are addressed first.

Wakefield planned to transition 375 children from Statements of SEN to EHCPs. Of these 313 have been issued, 26 discontinued and a further 30 are currently in process. (98% of those planned). This is 27% of the total number to be transitioned from Statement of SEN to EHCP. Of the 339 that have completed the process, 148 (44%) were completed within the set timeframes (14 weeks to end of March 2015, 16 weeks after end of March 2015).

Wakefield conducted 58 EHC Transition reviews for young people with a LDA. Of these 56 young people were issued with an EHCP. Of the total 56 (97%) were completed within the set timeframes (20 weeks for those issued with an EHCP, 14 weeks for those not issued).

Wakefield LA prides itself on completing work within statutory timeframes. It is pleasing to note that the number being completed within the set timeframes has increased as the year has progressed, for example, 92% of those that transitioned from Statement to EHCP from

the 1st April were completed in the set timeframe. We believe that in 2015/16 the overall figure will be significantly higher whilst maintaining and extending high quality plans.